

Match me if you can! Plant-Insect interactions in common cow parsnip *Heracleum maximum* (Apiaceae)

Brittany N. Smith proposed Master's thesis project with Peter Leipzig-Scott and Paul Ode

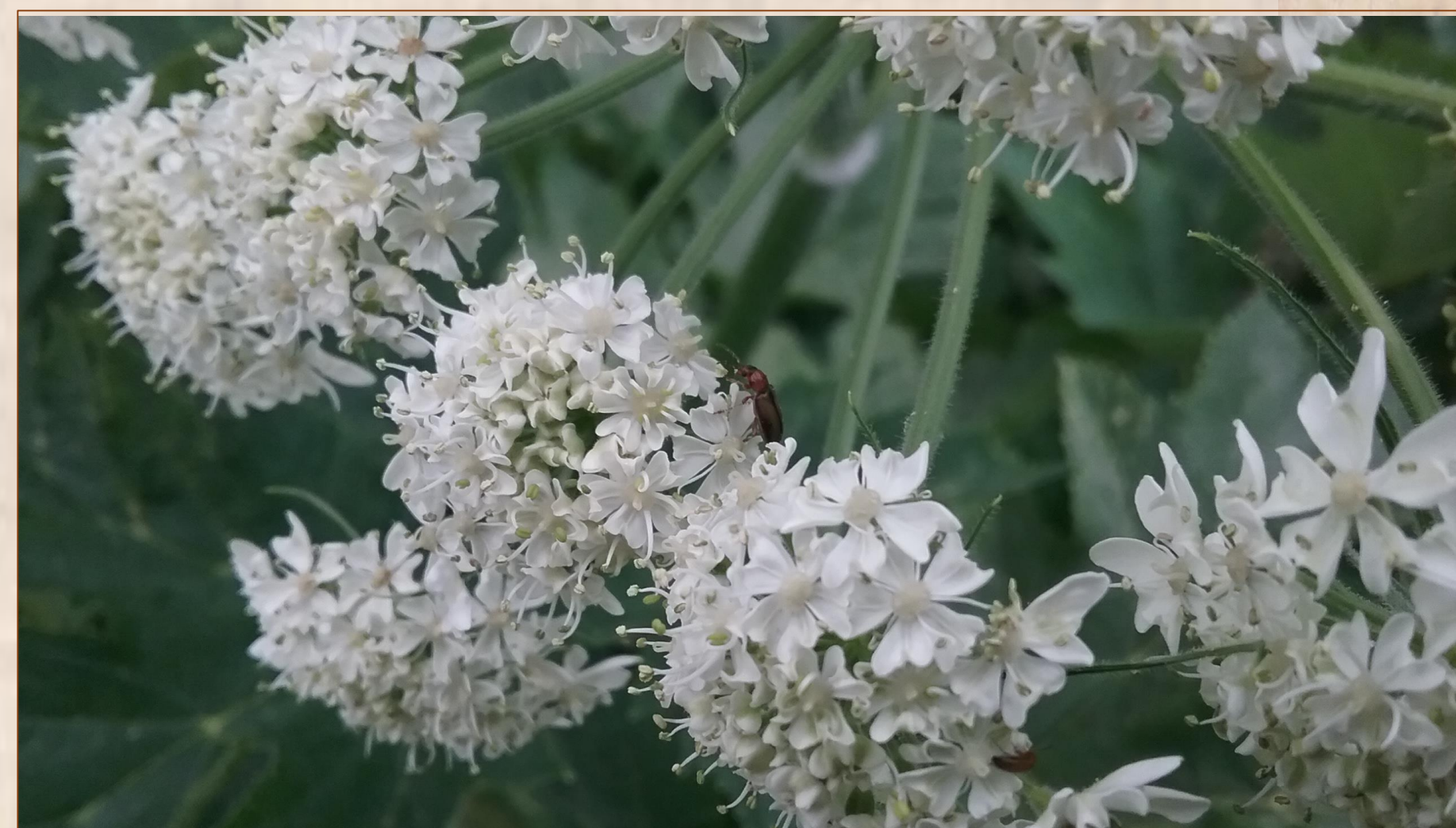


Introduction

Phenological match and –mismatch is described as the alignment of plants with their herbivores and pollinators. As environmental conditions (eg., climate) fluctuate, these matches may become asynchronous and lead to novel plant-insect interactions.

Purpose

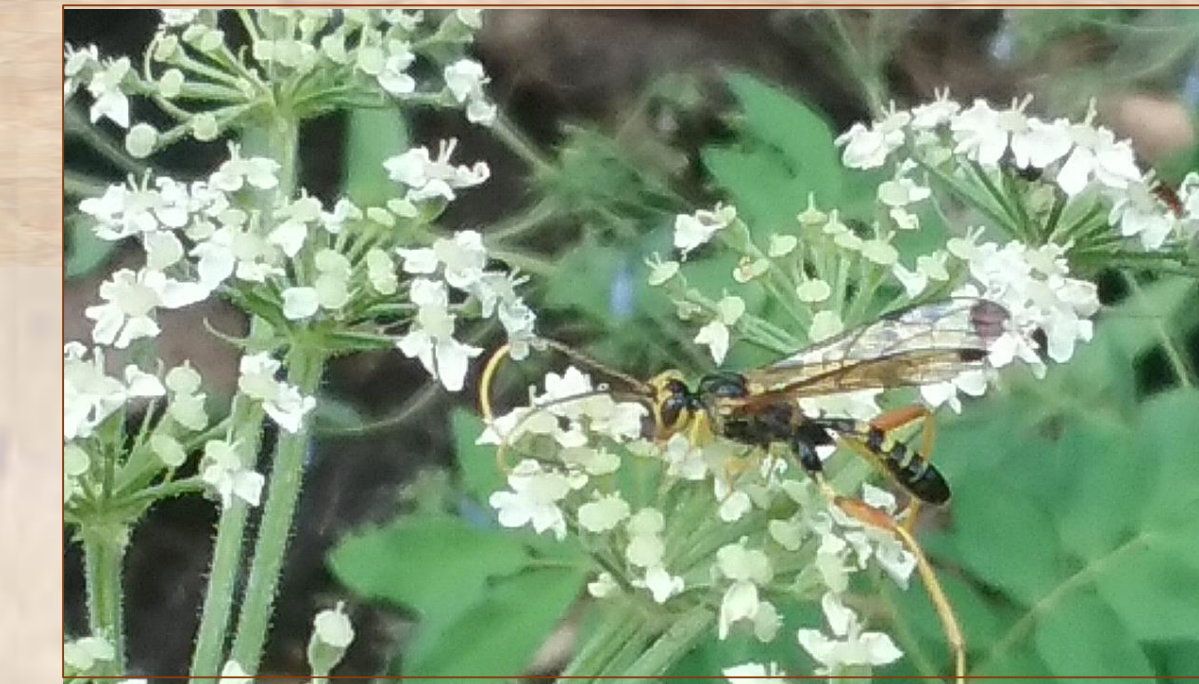
To determine how elevation and climate change affect *H. maximum* and its insect interactions with pollinators and herbivores.



Research Questions

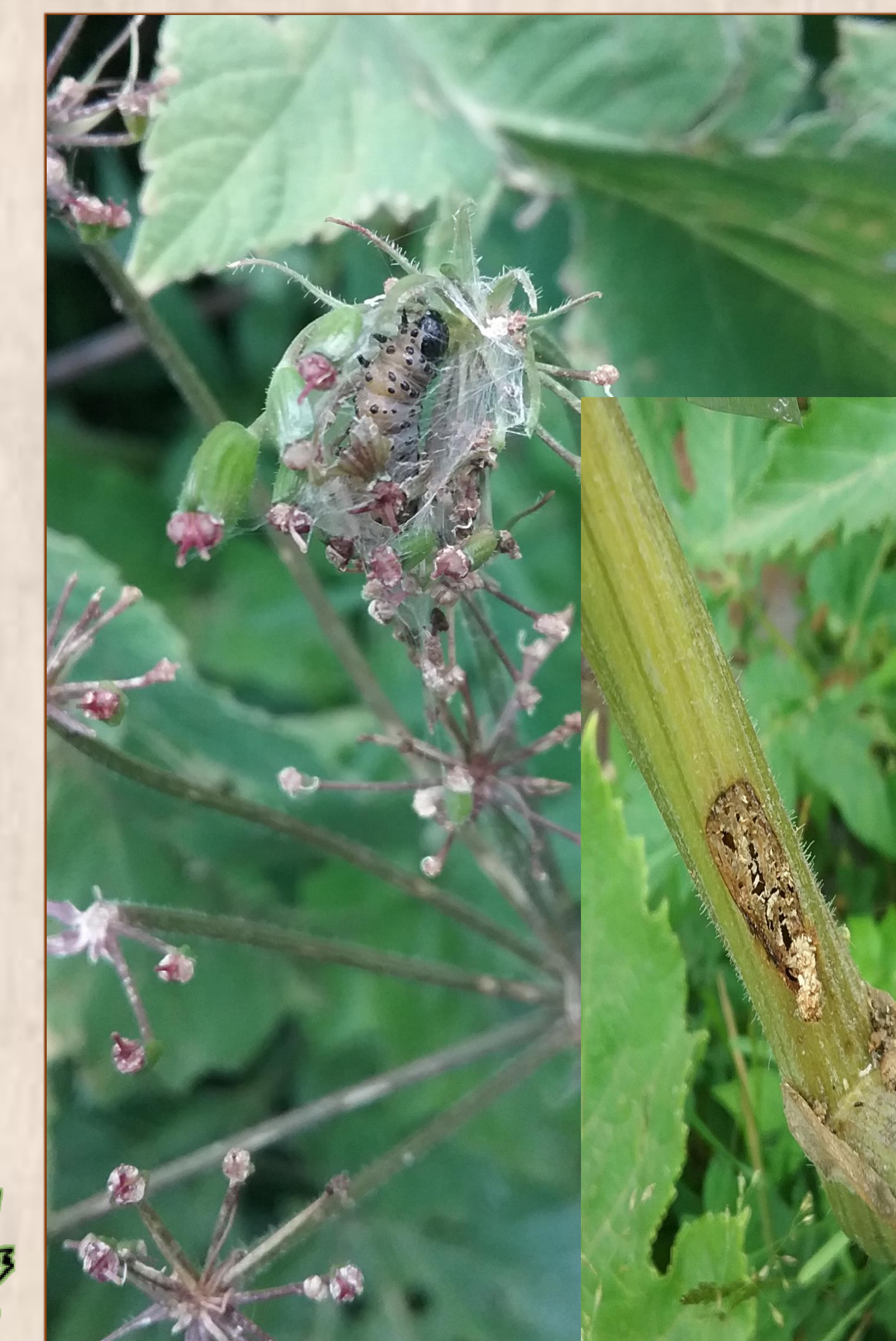
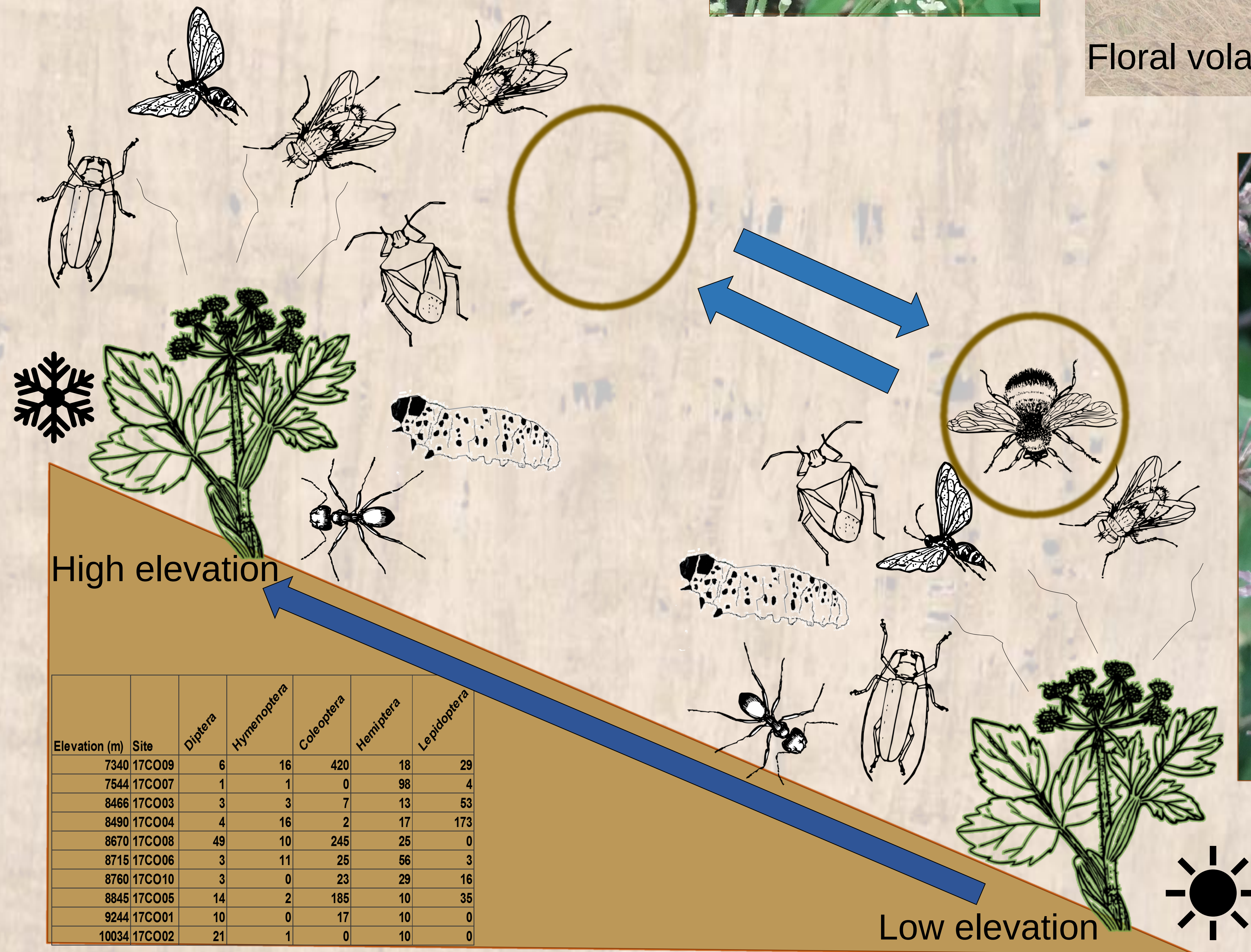
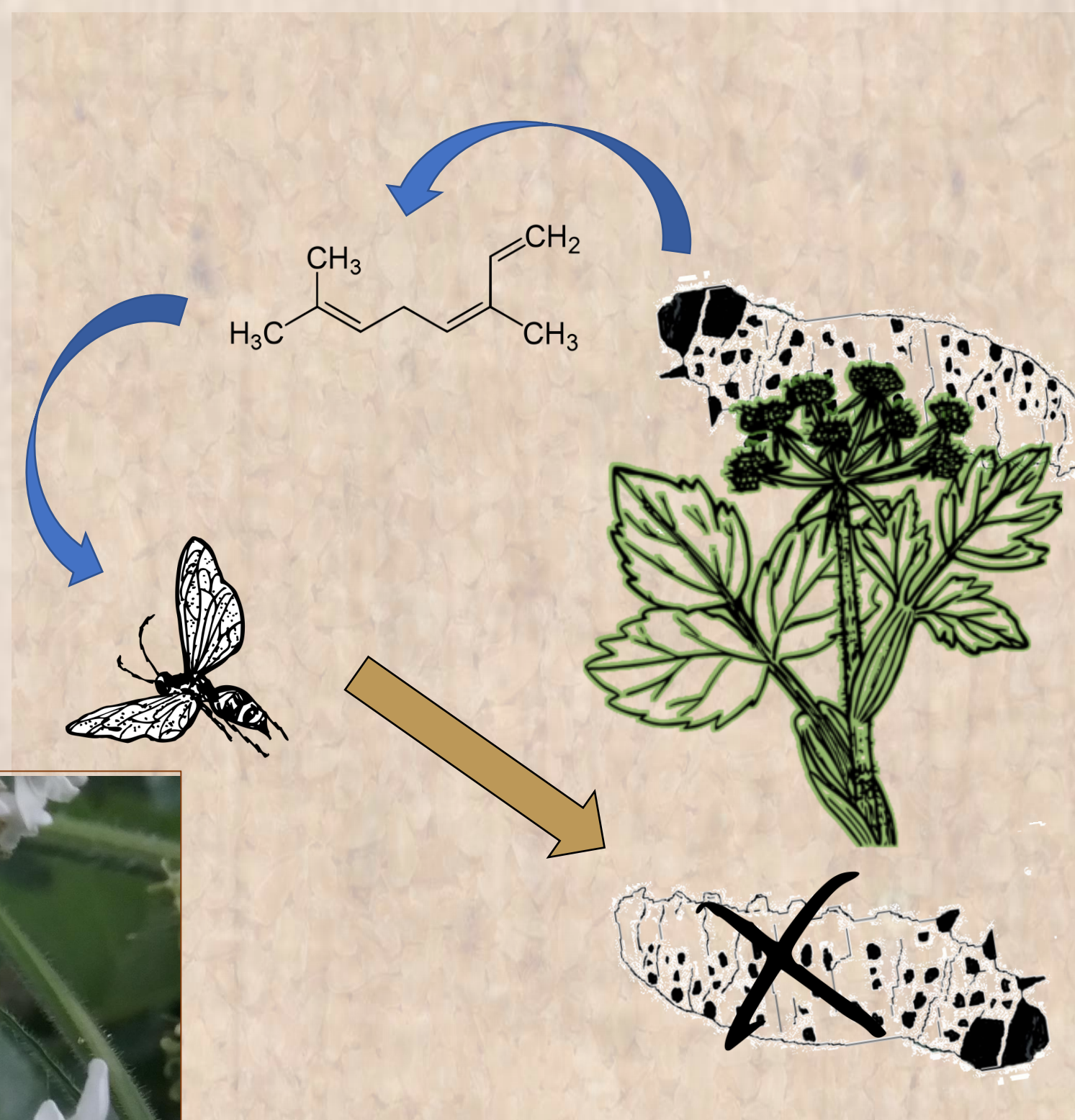
How is parsnip webworm *D. pastinacella* herbivory affecting *H. maximum* fitness?

Do plant-insect interactions change over elevation?

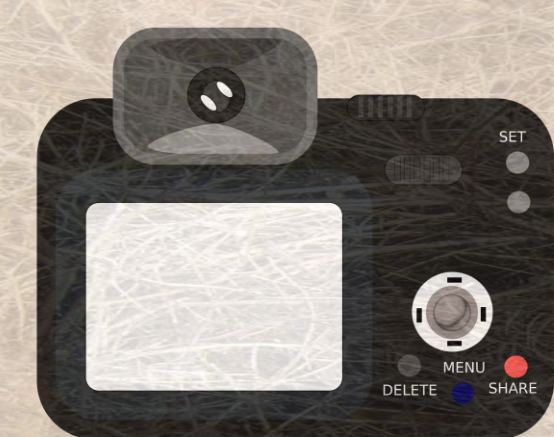


Significance

Observing plant phenology and traits may explain how a community and its plant-insect interactions will change over-time, especially in relation to climate change.



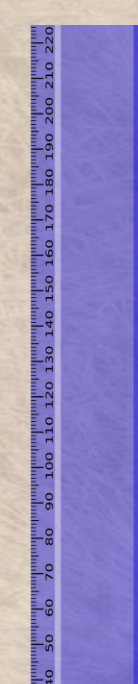
Procedures



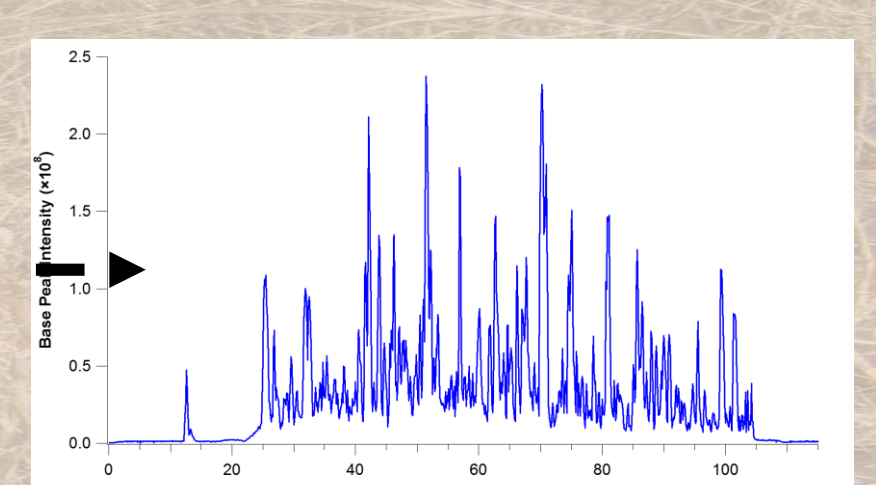
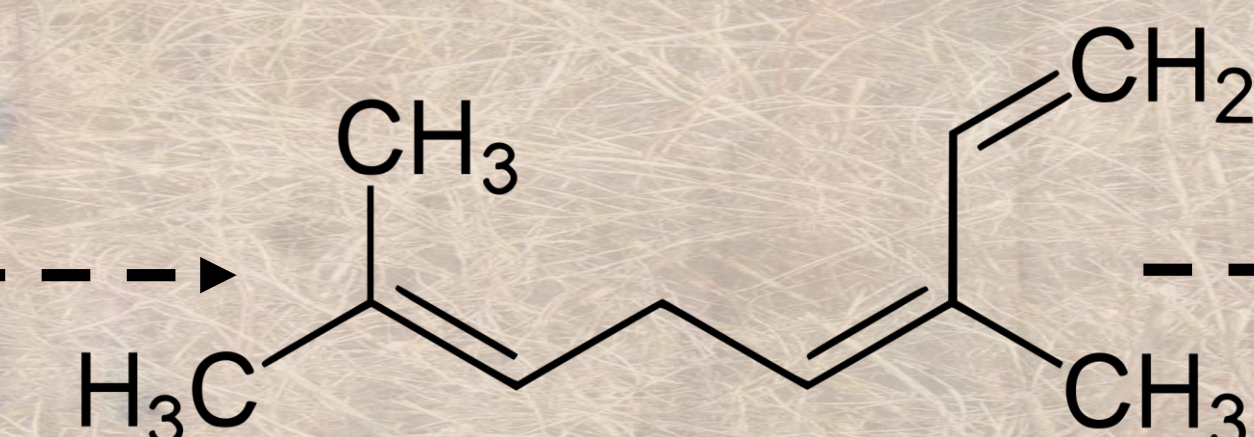
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A) Track and observe herbivores and potential pollinators



B) Monitor plant and herbivore phenology



C) Collect floral chemicals (volatiles)

